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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY.'S DOCKET: NAGASAWA=5

In re Application of:)	Art Unit: 1637
Hiroshi NAGASAWA et al)	Examiner: J. Shew
Appln. No.: 09/820,778)	Washington, D.C.
Date Filed: March 30, 2001)	Confirmation No. 3579
For: REACTIVE PROBE CHIP, COMPOSITE SUBSTRATE...)	June 18, 2003

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REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Replying to the restriction requirement Office Action
mailed May 20, 2003, the present applicants advise as follows:

Restriction has been required between what the PTO
deems as two (2) patentably distinct inventions as outlined at
the top of page 2 of the Office Action. As applicants must
make an election even though the requirement is traversed,
applicants hereby provisionally and respectfully elect, with
traverse and without prejudice, Group I directed to the probe
chip and method of manufacture, presently claims 1-26.

Applicants traversal is based on the second
paragraph of MPEP 803 which **requires** a search and examination

of an **entire application**, even when the restriction requirement is correct, if it would not constitute a "serious burden" to search and examine plural groups. In the present case, the two inventions are clearly very closely related and both are classified in class 435. Applicants respectfully submit that a complete search and examination of the elected Group I cannot be made without a search in class 435, subclass 283.1 the classification site for Group II, and a consideration of the Group II claims. Thus, it would not be a "serious burden" to also examine the Group II claims along with the elected claims.

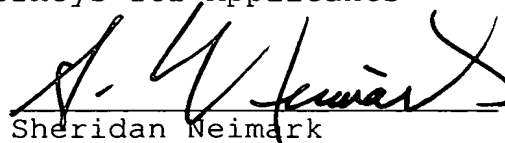
Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the requirement and examination of all the claims on the merits.

Applicants respectfully await the results of a first examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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